

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185090 TOSEC 080158

FOL RPT VIENNA 7170 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DTD 05 AUG 77

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 7170

EUR/CE FOR AMBASSADOR WOLF

DEPT PLEASE REPEAT USDEL SECRETARY

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UR, AU

SUBJ: VIENNA SALT TALKS-ADVANCE PLANNING

REF: STATE 180907

1. CHANCELLERY CHEF DE CABINET, GEHART, TOLD CHARGE DURING LATTER'S INTRODUCTORY CALL AUGUST 4 THAT CHANCELLOR KREISKY WOULD BE IN VIENNA SEPTEMBER 6 TO MEET WITH SECRETARY VANCE THAT DAY. BOTH GEHART AND MFA SECRETARY GENERAL REITBAUER, UPON WHOM CHARGE HAD CALLED EARLIER, SAID GOA WOULD DO ALL POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE SALT TALKS. THEY RAISED QUESTIONS CONCERNING ACCOMMODATIONS, PRESS REQUIREMENTS, AND SECURITY WHICH ARE CONVEYED, ALONG WITH EMBASSY'S OWN OBSERVATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION IN ADVANCE PLANNING FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT.

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2. BOTH AUSTRIANS WONDERED WHETHER SECRETARY'S CONVERSATIONS WITH FONMIN GROMYKO WOULD BE HELD AT SECRETARY'S HOTEL AND AT SOVIET EMBASSY, AS WAS CASE FOR KISSINGER-GROMYKO TALKS, OR AT RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES. (REITBAUER NOTED THAT HOFBURG CONFERENCE AND PRESS FACILITIES WERE ALREADY COMMITTED.) THEY BOTH MENTIONED THAT SECURITY ASPECTS OF VISIT WOULD BE MUCH LESS DIFFICULT TO COPE WITH IF

EMBASSIES' FACILITIES WERE UTILIZED. (EMBASSY, REFLECTING ON SECURITY PROBLEMS IN MAY 1975 AS WELL AS UPON COSTS, AGREES THAT MAXIMUM USE OF EMBASSY FACILITIES WOULD BE PREFERABLE, AND NOTES FURTHER FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION THAT SECURE EMBASSY CONFERENCE ROOM AND ADJOINING LOUNGE CONSTRUCTED FOR 1970-72 SALT TALKS REMAIN INTACT FOR POSSIBLE USE.)

3. AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS ALSO SAID GOA WOULD COOPERATE WITH US AND SOVIET GOVERNMENTS, AS DESIRED, IN SETTING UP PRESS CENTER. THEY SUGGESTED, AS DID FEDERAL PRESS OFFICER LATER TO PAO, THAT SINGLE PRESS CENTER MIGHT BE RUN JOINTLY BY GOA, US AND SOVIET EMBASSIES AT SECRETARY'S HOTEL. CHARGE NOTED THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMPARABLE MEETINGS HAD VARIED IN PAST AND SAID HE WOULD REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE.

4. EMBASSY HAS ASCERTAINED THAT, ALTHOUGH ALL FIRST-CLASS HOTELS ARE FULLY BOOKED FOR PERIOD OF SECRETARY'S VISIT, HILTON WOULD BE WILLING AND ABLE TO MAKE AVAILABLE AT LEAST FIFTY ROOMS FOR SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY ON SINGLE FLOOR OF HOTEL, WHICH WOULD FACILITATE SECURITY. THIS WOULD INCLUDE SUITE FOR SECRETARY'S USE, UNLESS SECRETARY WOULD PREFER PENTHOUSE SUITE. (BEFORE RECOMMENDING USE OF PENTHOUSE SUITE, HOWEVER, EMBASSY BELIEVES SECURITY SITUATION THERE SHOULD BE REVIEWED
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CAREFULLY BY EXPERTS. PENTHOUSE SUITE WOULD, OF COURSE, PRESENT DISADVANTAGE OF PUTTING SECRETARY ON DIFFERENT FLOOR FROM HIS ADVISERS.) HILTON WOULD ALSO MAKE AVAILABLE TWO LARGE ROOMS ON 16TH FLOOR, WHICH EMBASSY BELIEVES COULD BE OUTFITTED ADEQUATELY AS PRESS CENTER.

5. IN TALKS WITH REITBAUER AND GEHART, CHARGE REEMPHASIZED ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST'S REMARKS TO AMBASSADOR SCHOBBER ON AUGUST 1 THAT THE SECRETARY WAS NOT SCHEDULING ANY OTHER ACTIVITY OF ANY KIND WHILE IN VIENNA EXCEPT MEETING WITH CHANCELLOR KREISKY ON SEPTEMBER 6. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO VIENNA WILL COINCIDE WITH OPENING OF VIENNA PHILHARMONIC SEASON (WHICH FEATURES UNICEF BENEFIT CONCERT ON SEPTEMBER 8 CONDUCTED BY LEONARD BERNSTEIN) AND RELATED GALA SOCIAL EVENTS THAT INVOLVE VIRTUALLY ALL TOP GOA OFFICIALS. BORG
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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